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US NON-PROVISIONAL APPLICATION

of

Louise D. Donovan
17643, Myrtlewood Dr.
Chesterfield, MO 63005
Citizen of the United States of America

for

WAND WITH LIGHT SOURCES FOR READING OR VIEWING INDICIA

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Louise D. Donovan

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims priority to U.S. Serial No. 60/413,438 filed September 26, 2002.

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

[0002] The present disclosure relates to a wand with differential light sources that can reveal indicia on a substrate such as, for example, a book.

[0003] Glow-in-the dark books for children and other substrates with colored indicia are used as entertainment as well as teaching aids. The present disclosure is directed to a wand configured to have two light sources, the light sources capable of detecting a plurality of indicia on a substrate. The wand may be included as a kit that also includes any suitable substrate such as, for example, a book, playing cards, or other cards, puzzles, and board games. The kit may be suitable for use as a teaching aid, an entertainment or an amusement device.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0004] The drawings are provided to illustrate an embodiment of the disclosure. It is envisioned that alternate configurations of the embodiments of the present disclosure may be adopted without deviating from the disclosure as illustrated in these drawings and as described in the detailed description section below.

[0005] FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a kit in accordance with an embodiment of the present disclosure showing a wand of the kit removably secured to the substrate and also showing for illustrative purposes the wand removed for use.

[0006] FIG. 2 is a perspective view of a wand of the kit of FIG. 1.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0007] While the concepts of the present disclosure are illustrated and described in detail in the drawings and the description below, such an illustration and description is to be considered as exemplary and not restrictive in character, it being understood that only the

illustrative embodiments are shown and described and that all changes and modifications that come within the spirit of the disclosure are desired to be protected.

[0008] As shown in FIG. 1, a kit in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present disclosure includes a substrate **10** with a first indicia **12**, a second indicia **14**, and a wand **16**. As shown in FIG. 2, the illustrated wand **16** includes a first light source **18** that emits visible light, for example white light, to reveal the first indicia **12** and a second light source **20** that emits long range ultraviolet (UV) light, for example, such as a black light, to make glow or otherwise reveal the second indicia **14**. The illustrated substrate **10** constitutes a book. The substrate **10** may be in any other suitable form in accordance with other embodiments such as, for example, playing cards or other cards, board games, puzzles, fabric, and other printed material. The visible light from the wand **16** reveals the first indicia **12** to enable the book to be read in the dark, and the black light from the wand **16** reveals the second indicia **14** that is otherwise substantially concealed. FIG. 1 shows the wand **16** removably secured to the substrate **10** and for illustrative purposes shows the wand being used to reveal the second indicia **14**.

[0009] The wand **16** may have any suitable configuration. In the illustrated embodiment, for example, the wand **16** includes at one end a first light source **18** that emits light in a visible spectrum of wavelength of about 700 nm and at the other end a second light source **20** that emits light in a long range ultraviolet spectrum of wavelength of about 345 nm and 400 nm. Either or both of the first and the second light sources **18** and **20** can be positioned elsewhere in the wand **16** in accordance with other embodiments such as, for example, at the same end of the wand **16** or towards the center of the wand **16**. The first light source **18** may include a visible light emitting diode and the second light source **20** may include a black light emitting diode. Light sources that involve light emitting diodes (LEDs) can be obtained from LED manufacturers such as Ledtronics, Inc. Any other forms of light sources such as, for example, standard electrical bulbs or incandescent bulbs can also be used instead of LEDs. The wand **16** also has first and second controls **22** and **24**, wherein the first control **22** activates and deactivates the first light source **18** and the second control **24** activates and deactivates the second light source **20**. For example, the controls **22** and **24** may include on-off switches with optional bright-dim adjustments. The controls **22** and **24** may have any suitable construction or a single

switch or control of any suitable construction may instead be used to activate and deactivate the first and second light sources **18** and **20** in accordance with other embodiments. The wand **16** further includes a first light diffuser **26** and a second light diffuser **28** to diffuse light from the first light source **18** and the second light source **20** respectively. These diffusers **26** and **28** are made of any suitable material such as, for example, sand-blasted plastic. Sand-blasted plastic may, for example, be manufactured by an electrical discharge machine that imparts sand-blasted finish to plastic. The light diffusers **26** and **28** may help to spread the light uniformly and also to filter any undesirable wavelength such as short-range ultraviolet light. Such light diffusers **26** and **28** can be obtained from standard optical filter manufacturers or lighting device manufacturers. In the illustrated embodiment, the wand **16** is a hollow cylinder made of plastic with partitions defining compartments for the first and second light sources **18** and **20**, the controls **22** and **24**, the diffusers **26** and **28**, and the power sources **34** and **36** including batteries **38** and **40**. The diffusers **26** and **28** may be secured to the cylinder by glue, molding, welding or any other suitable means. The wand **16** may have any other suitable construction and configuration in accordance with other embodiments. For example, the wand **16** be of the form of any suitable flash light with at least two different light sources. The wand **16** may also have any other form of shape or design such as, for example, circular or spherical construction.

[00010] The first and second indicia **12** and **14** may appear as any suitable matter. The first and second indicia **12** and **14** may, for example be images, pictures, letters, numbers, artwork, drawings, and animated drawings. In the illustrated embodiment, for example, the first indicia **12** comprises words and a tree, and the second indicia **14** is an owl in the tree. The second indicia **14** is not readily visible upon a cursory observation or is otherwise generally or substantially concealed until it is illuminated by the second light source **14** (see FIG. 1). The second indicia **14** is thus substantially or generally concealed under visible light source but is revealed under the ultraviolet light from the wand **16**. The second indicia **14** may be drawn with an invisible ink, phosphorescent paints or inks or fluorescent paints or inks or other material capable of being illuminated by a black light or other source but visible light, can be purchased from craft stores, hardware or chemical stores.

[00011] The wand **16** may be operated by turning on the first light source **18** and moving the wand **16** over or adjacent the first indicia **12**, for example, to enable reading or viewing the first indicia **12** in the dark, while the second indicia **14** remains substantially concealed. The first light source **18** may then be turned off with the first control **22** and the second light source **20** may be turned on with the second control **24**. The second light source **20** may then be moved over or adjacent the second indicia **14** to reveal the second indicia **14**. Thus in the illustrated embodiment, during darkness, the tree and words are revealed with the first light source **18**, with the owl being substantially concealed under the first light source **18**. The owl is revealed when exposed to the second light source **20**. In a similar way, the wand **16** can also be used to reveal substantially concealed letters, words, phrases, and sentences. The wand **16** can also be used to reveal questions or clues to a riddle with the first light source **18** and the answers to the questions or riddles can be revealed using the second light source **20**. By way of further example, the first indicia **12** may also include characters to form a question or a puzzle, and the second indicia **14** may include characters to form an answer to the question or the puzzle of the first indicia **12**. The wand **16** can also be operated in a dark room, in a tent, outside at night, or other suitable environment.

[00012] The wand **16** may also have different colored light sources in accordance with other embodiments. For example, the first light source **18** may comprise a green color light and the second light source **20**, in accordance with other embodiments, may comprise a red color light. Accordingly, if the first indicia **12** is green in color, it will be concealed under the green light source and will be visible under the red light source or visible light. Similarly, if the second indicia **14** is red in color, it will be concealed under the red light source and will be visible under the green light source or visible light. The wand **16** with different colored light sources may be operated in a dark room.

[00013] In the illustrated embodiment, the wand **16** is removably secured to the substrate **10** by a clip **32**. The wand **16** may be attached to the book by any other suitable means such as, for example, VelcroTM, a thread, wire, chain, or any other form of connector means. The wand **16** may also be held in the substrate in a suitable slot. The wand **16** may be removably secured to the substrate **10** at any suitable location on the substrate **10**.

[00014]

The wand 16 also includes any suitable power source. In the illustrated embodiment, for example, the wand 16 includes a first power source 34 and a second power source 36. The power source may include a single battery 38 or a plurality of batteries 40. A single power source 34 or 36 or a plurality of power sources 34 and 36 may supply power to the light sources 18 and 20. The batteries 38 and 40 may include standard batteries or watch batteries such as lithium ion batteries. The batteries 38 and 40 may also include rechargeable features. The power sources 34 and 36 for the wand may also include an external power supply such as an electrical outlet connected through an electrical cord. The power sources 34 and 36 including batteries 38 and 40 of appropriate size and strength can be purchased from standard hardware or electronics or electrical stores.

[00015]

It will be noted that alternative embodiments of each of the apparatus, systems, and methods of the present disclosure may not include all of the features described yet still benefit from at least some of the inferred advantages of such features. Those of ordinary skill in the art may readily devise their own implementations of an apparatus, system, and method that incorporate one or more of the features of the present disclosure and fall within the spirit and scope of the disclosure.